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**MINUTES  
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
Monday, January 11, 2010  
5:00 p.m.  
Human Resources  
Pinnacle Training Room  
7575 E. Main Street  
Scottsdale, Arizona**

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**PRESENT:** Linda Simmons, Chair  
Susan Galpin, Vice Chair  
Bob Fox, Commissioner  
Jeff Jameson, Commissioner  
Kuros Lamé, Commissioner (arrived at 5:20 p.m.)  
Edward Lopez, Commissioner  
Joel Martin, Commissioner

**STAFF:** Linda Walton, Staff Liaison  
Velicia McMillan, Assistant General Manager, Human Resources

1. **Call to Order**

Chair Simmons called the meeting of the Scottsdale Human Relations Commission to order at 5:11 p.m.

2. **Review and Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Walton corrected "byways" to "bylaws" in the last sentence of page 4.

**VICE CHAIR GALPIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 14, 2009 REGULAR MEETING, AS AMENDED. COMMISSIONER FOX SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF SIX (6) TO ZERO (0). COMMISSIONER LAMÉ WAS NOT YET PRESENT.**

3. **Ethics Training**

Chair Simmons noted that the City Attorney's Office would not be available to provide the annual ethics training workshop to the Commission. Ms. Walton noted that DVDs of the presentation would be made available instead.

4. **Review of Old Business from Previous Meeting**

The Commission continued a discussion on how to encourage diversity programs in the schools. Commissioner Fox reiterated the need to find a champion within the school system to drive the program. Chair Simmons noted that some schools already have diversity programs.

She mentioned Joe Baca, Katie Cavanaugh, and Commissioner Fox's daughter as individuals who may be interested in working with the Commission. Commissioner Jameson suggested engaging in further discovery to identify potential champions and programs. It would be preferable to amplify existing efforts rather than starting something completely new.

Commissioner Martin queried the Commission on their desired goal. Once the goal has been clarified, there may be multiple ways to realize it. She noted that the Sister Cities Board already has contacts in the schools, and they might be willing to collaborate on a joint venture with the HRC. Commissioner Lamé suggested contacting teachers in art departments who have experience bringing together students from different backgrounds. Chair Simmons said the solution might be as simple as offering support for an existing program. Commissioner Fox felt the Commission's goal should be to have the School District develop young people who understand, appreciate, and value diversity. They might already have programs that do that.

**COMMISSIONER JAMESON MOVED THAT THE HRC ENGAGE, OVER THE NEXT TWO MONTHS, IN A DISCOVERY EFFORT WITH LIAISONS AT THE SCOTTSDALE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, BEGINNING WITH ARCADIA HIGH SCHOOL, WITH THE GOAL OF OBTAINING A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE DIVERSITY INITIATIVES THEY ARE ENGAGED IN. VICE CHAIR GALPIN SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0).**

Commissioners Jameson, and Lopez volunteered to set up discovery meetings with the liaisons. Commissioner Martin requested a programmatic summary once the effort is complete, so that the HRC has a better idea of how to partner with and support the schools' diversity programs.

## **5. Election of Officers**

Commissioner Simmons noted that the HRC is charged with electing new officers at the first meeting of each new year. Commissioner Galpin nominated Linda Simmons, and Commissioner Lopez nominated Jeff Jameson. Commissioner Martin requested that the candidates share their visions for the Commission during the next year.

Commissioner Simmons said she would like to see the Commission be a cohesive, collaborative, and risk-taking group, that continues to be involved in a wide range of activities. The HRC should pay attention to what is going on with the Mayor and City Council and bring issues to the table proactively, instead of waiting passively for issues to come to them. It is important that the Commissioners have fun and be energized.

Commissioner Jameson agreed that it is important to build on the Commission's successes and be more proactive in the community. He proposed conducting focus groups to find out what constituents need, and to attract a broader coalition of people. The Cross Cultural Series is important and efforts should be made to increase attendance. The HRC should build upon the recent successes of the Hispanic Heritage Festival and Unity Walk, and build coalitions with other organizations around the city that have a stake in advancing diversity. The Commission's partnership with the schools should become very strong over the course of the year. He proposed visiting with each City Councilmember individually to learn what their visions are and to share the HRC's vision on Scottsdale's diversity.

**COMMISSIONER GALPIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE NOMINATION OF LINDA SIMMONS AS THE 2010 CHAIRPERSON OF THE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION. COMMISSIONER MARTIN SECONDED.**

**COMMISSIONER LOPEZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE NOMINATION OF JEFF JAMESON AS THE 2010 CHAIRPERSON OF THE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION. COMMISSIONER MARTIN SECONDED.**

**CHAIR SIMMONS RECEIVED 3 VOTES.  
COMMISSIONER JAMESON RECEIVED 4 VOTES.**

Commissioner Simmons accepted nominations for Vice Chair of the HRC.

**COMMISSIONER GALPIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE NOMINATION OF EDWARD LOPEZ AS THE 2010 VICE-CHAIR OF THE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION. COMMISSIONER MARTIN SECONDED.**

**COMMISSIONER FOX MOVED TO APPROVE THE NOMINATION OF LINDA SIMMONS AS THE 2010 VICE-CHAIR OF THE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION. COMMISSIONER JAMESON SECONDED.**

**COMMISSIONER LOPEZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE NOMINATION OF SUSAN GALPIN AS THE 2010 VICE-CHAIR OF THE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION. COMMISSIONER JAMESON SECONDED.**

**COMMISSIONER SIMMONS RECEIVED 6 VOTES.  
COMMISSIONER GALPIN RECEIVED 1 VOTE.**

In response to an inquiry from Commissioner Martin, Vice Chair Simmons said that her vote for Susan Galpin should not be misconstrued as unwillingness to serve as Vice Chair for 2010. Chair Jameson said he looks forward to building on the HRC's positive momentum, and to working with Vice Chair Simmons over the course of the year.

## **6. Regional Unity Walk**

Ms. Walton reported that the Regional Unity Walk organizing group has not met since the last meeting. Mayor Lane has confirmed that he will attend the event. Scottsdale is negotiating with a dance group for the entertainment portion. Expenses will be divided equally between the participating cities. Alonzo Jones will be the featured speaker. The plan is to promote the event through traditional avenues. The ADL has agreed to partner with the City in soliciting a large group of people to walk with the Scottsdale contingent. Participants will meet at 10 a.m. at the Tempe Lake Arena, walk for one mile, and then join for the program at the park. A water taxi will help bring people back to their point of origin.

Commissioner Lopez inquired about the idea that each city provides trading tokens so that participants could trade with people from other cities. Ms. Walton responded that one of the cities is exploring the use of different colored wrist bands.

7. **16<sup>th</sup> Annual Scottsdale Community MLK Celebration**

Ms. Walton reported that 620 people attended the celebration, and about a dozen sponsors participated. The featured speaker said he was delighted with the treatment he received during the event. Commissioner Martin expressed her appreciation for the diverse program, the dancers, the graphics, and Dr. McMillan's handling of the event. Vice Chair Simmons felt that the event flowed better than ever before. Commissioner Martin requested that the Commission be informed when sponsorship packages become available for next year's event. Dr. McMillan said Community Celebrating Diversity appoints members to the Planning Committee. They would welcome the Commission's involvement.

8. **Chair Reports**

Vice Chair Simmons noted that the General Plan Update group has not met yet.

9. **Commissioner Items**

Commissioner Lopez encouraged the Commission to continue interacting with the new City Manager and David Ellison. Commissioner Martin said she was selected to train all the employees of the Mountain Park Health Center in diversity. Part of the program was on health disparities. The Sheriff's practices are causing health disparities for Hispanic citizens. Many are afraid to leave their home to take advantage of the medical treatment that they get, and families are being separated.

10. **Open Call to the Public (A.R.S. § 38-431.02)**

There were no public comments.

11. **Staff Liaison Items**

Ms. Walton distributed Personal Interest Disclosure Forms to the Commissioners. She said the next Cross Cultural Communication Series event is a screening of the film *Trouble the Water*, on February 2 and 4. The Diversity Leadership Alliance also has a program scheduled for this month.

12. **Adjournment**

With no further business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

A/V Tronics, Inc. DBA AVTranz.